recommendations of the Commission, all social partners including State Governments will be duly consulted.

Indian Labour Conference

971. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Labour Conference was held at New Delhi in the month of September, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the delegates participated in the conference and the points discussed therein;

(c) the outcome of the discussions held in the conference;

(d) whether Government have taken any further action on the points discussed in the conference; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The 38th Session of the Indian Labour Conference was held at New Delhi on 28-29 September, 2002.

(b) The Conference was attended by delegates from Central Trade Union Organisations (Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh, Indian National Trade Union Congress, Centre of Indian Trade Unions, Hind Mazdoor Sabha, All India Trade Union Congress, United Trade Union Centre-LS, United Trade Union Congress and National Front of Indian Trade Unions), Central Employers' Organisations (Council of Indian Employers, Confederation of Indian Industries, All India Manufacturers' Organisation, Laghu Udyog Bharati, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India), concerned Central Ministries/ Deptts. and State Governments/Union Territories. The Conference discussed the following issues:

(i) Impact of globalization on the Indian economy particularly on employment, and how to meet the challenges.

(ii) Social Safety Net.

(iii) Disinvestment Policy of the Government.

(iv) Problems and challenges being faced by the small-scale industries and their remedies.

(v) Report of Second National Commission on Labour.

(c) The following main views emerged out of the discussions held in the conference:—

(i) there is need for an in-depth review of the impact of globalisation on the Indian economy and for social dialogue on strategies to be adopted for facing the challenges of globalisation.

(ii) there is need for a comprehensive legislation for and increased spending on social security.

(iii) there is a need for an overall review of the Disinvestment Policy keeping national interest in mind.

(iv) there is need for simplification and rationalisation of labour laws applicable to tiny and small scale industry and provision of social security measures like insurance, medical coverage and disability benefits.

(v) there is need for introduction of an umbrella legislation for workers in the unorganised sector.

(vi) there is need for creation of a Skill Development Fund for training/ re-training of workers.

(vii) Despite divergence of opinions on the recommendations of the National Commission on Labour, there was unanimity of views on certain recommendations viz., umbrella legislation for workers in unorganised sector, creation of skill development fund for training & retraining, encouragement of small scale industry, agri-business and rural sector for higher employment generation, consolidation of social security legislations and establishment of social security system etc.

(d) to (e) While formulating policies/programmes on matters relating to labour, the recommendations of the conference are given due consideration by the Government.